THE REHEARSAL.

The Character of Mr. *Hickeringil*. With his former *Good* Deeds.

SATURDAY, *March* 29. 1707.

Country-man. SOme think, *Maſter*, you were miſtaken in that *Goliath*, over whom you have *Triumphed*, and cut of his *Head* with his own *Sword*; and therefore tell us we may wait more patiently, till you ſhall have leaſure, from other *Enemies*, to Diſſect his foul *Carcaſs*.

They ſay there is a *Greater* in the *Army* of the *Philiſtines* than that *Monſter* of the *Rights* whom you have *Slain*, that is, one Mr. *Hickeringil*, whoſe *works* are *Advertis'd* in the *Obſervator*, who has appeared in the Front of the *Legions* of *Whiggs* and *Deiſts* and plays their *Artillery* of *Prieſt-Craft* againſt *God* and his *Church*, with more *Fury* than even the Man of *Gath*.

Rehearſal. This man is not in the *Army* of the *Philiſtines*, only a *Spy* of theirs in the *Camp* of *Iſrael*. And thinking now that the *Philiſtines* have gained the Day and the *Victory* is ſure on their ſide: He has thrown off his *Diſguiſe*, and *Boaſts* himſelf that he has been *Always* on their ſide.

Country-m. Why *Maſter*, was he *Always* on their ſide? I thought he had been a new *Convert* to them, ſince the late *Buſtles* began.

Rehearſ. That you may know the *Man* and his *Converſation*, and that I may do him no wrong, I'll give you his *Character* and former *Behaviour* as drawn by himſelf, and *Signed* with his own hand, before Sufficient *Witneſſes*.

And Indeed, *Country-man*, this is the beſt anſwer to his *Books*, for they proceed not with the Face of *Argument*, as the *Book* of the *Rights* do's; but are a *Rapſody* of *Railing*, and monſtrous *Blaſphemy*, too *Lewd* to be Repeated. It was too Hard for me to Endure the Reading of but three or four pages in one of them, that I was forc'd to throw it out of my hand, thinking *Satan* himſelf had been ſpeaking to me! But now take his *Character*.

The moſt Humble Confeſſion and Recantation of *Edmund Hickeringil, Clerk.* Publickly Made, Read, Sign'd and Seal'd in the Court of Arches; held before the Right Worſhipful, Sir *Richard Lloyd*, Knight, and Doctor of Laws, in the abſence of the Right Worſhipful Sir *Robert Wiſeman*, Knight, and Doctor of Laws, Principal Official of the ſaid Court; in the Common-Hall of Doctors Commons, *London*, on *Friday* the 27*th* day of *June*, in the Year of our Lord, 1684.

WHereas I *Edmund Hickeringil* Clerk, Rector of the Pariſh Church of *All-Saints* in *Colcheſter*, in the Dioceſs of *London*, and Province of *Canterbury*, have, at the Promotion of the Right Reverend Father in God, *Henry*, by Divine Permiſſion, Lord Biſhop of *London*, my Reverend Dioceſan been rightly and duly proceeded againſt in this Court, for Solemnizing, or rather Prophaning of Marriages, between ſeveral Perſons in my ſaid Pariſh Church, Clandeſtinely, without their Matrimonial Bannes being in their reſpective Pariſh Churches firſt publiſhed, and denounced, or any Licenſe from Eccleſiaſtical Authority, being firſt had and obtained (though I made each Couple pay 5 *s.* for ſuch Licenſe) in Contempt of the Law, and Canons, and Conſtitutions Eccleſiaſtical, in that behalf provided, and upon Legal proof thereof made, have been, by Sentence of this Court, juſtly decreed (amongſt other things) to be ſuſpended for the ſame, for three years, according to the ſaid Canons; and was by the ſaid Sentence actually ſuſpended accordingly, under which Sentence of Suſpention I ſtill continue, the ſaid three years being not yet expired. And whereas during the dependance of the ſaid Suit, I appeared ſeveral times in the ſaid Court, and there demeaned my ſelf with great Impudence, denying the Juriſdiction thereof, to the great Affront of his Grace, the moſt Reverend Father in God, the Lord Archbiſhop of *Canterbury* Primate of all *England*, and Metropolitan (whoſe Court it is) refuſing to be uncovered, and to give that Reſpect and Reverence, which is juſtly due to the ſame, endeavouring by my inſolent and unmannerly Carriage and Behaviour there, to put all the Affronts, and the higheſt Contempts that I could, upon the ſaid Court, and to expoſe it to the Scorn of the Rabble that attended me there. And moreover, whereas

whereas I have lately, in ſeveral Libellous Books and Pamphlets, by me Written and Publiſhed, and particularly in theſe Books and Pamphlets, Intituled as followeth, *viz. The Second Part of Naked Truth: The Vindication of Naked Truth: News from Doctors Commons: Scandalum Magnatum: Tryal at Chelmsford: The Muſhroom: The Black Non-Conformiſt: The Man-Catcher, and the Hiſtory of Whiggiſm*, Publiſhed and Printed ſeveral Scandalous, Erroneous, and *Seditious* Principles, againſt His moſt Sacred Majeſty and, Government Eccleſiaſtical, to the Violation of my Duty as a Subject, and a Prieſt, in Contempt of the Holy Church, and in Derogation of Eccleſiaſtical Juriſdiction and the Authority of the Biſhops, and Eccleſiaſtical Judges; by which means I have fomented and incited the Factious and Phanatical Party to Contemn the Government of the Church, as by Law Eſtabliſhed, and to perſiſt in their Errors and *Sedition*, to the great diſturbance of the Peace of this Church and Kingdom.

Now I, the ſaid *Edmund Hickeringil*, being truly, and deeply ſenſible, of the Heighnouſneſs of my Crimes, and Offences herein, and being truly, and heartily ſorry for the ſame. And taking ſhame to my ſelf, for having ſo highly offended Almighty God, the Kings moſt Sacred Majeſty, the Holy Church; and been ſoScandalous to my Sacred Function, as a Prieſt, in particular, and as a Chriſtian, to all Good People in general, do here openly, and in the Face of this Court, voluntarily, freely, and humbly acknowledge, and Confeſs, the Heynouſneſs of my ſaid Crimes and Offences, as alſo, that the ſaid Court, hath moſt juſtly Proceeded againſt me for the ſame. And I do alſo here publickly in the Face of this Court, Voluntarily and freely Recant, and Retract all, and every of thoſe Scandalous, Erroneous, and *Seditious* Principles, which I have publiſhed, and Printed, in my beforementioned Libellous Books, and Pamphlets, or in any of them. And I do here earneſtly, and heartily, beg forgiveneſs, of all my above-mentioned Crimes, and Offences againſt God Almighty, the Kings moſt Sacred Majeſty, the Holy Church, the Reverend Biſhops, and Eccleſiaſtical Judges, and more particularly againſt my moſt Reverend Metropolitan, and my right Reverend Dioceſan, and againſt this Court, againſt the Venerable Clergy of this Land, and againſt all Good Chriſtian People. And do here ſolemnly and Seriouſly Promiſe, that (by Gods aſſiſtance) I will never for the Future, Offend in the like nature again. And that all People may be ſatisfied of the truth, and ſincerity of my Repentance, for theſe my Crimes and Offences, I do now make it my humble requeſt, to this Court, that this my Confeſſion, and Recantation, may be forthwith Painted and Publiſhed. In witneſs whereof I have hereunto ſet my Hand and Seal this 27*th*, day of *June*, in the year our Lord, 1684.

Edmund Hickeringil.

THIS Confeſſion and Recantation, was Read, Signed, and Sealed by the ſaid *Edmund Hickeringil* in the Court, *&c.* as aforeſaid.

Ita Teſtor Thomas Tyllot *Actuarius Depur.*

FINIS.

Country-m. This makes Good *Maſter* what you have told me before *Num.* 25. 88 and 92. How hard it is for *Whiggs* to *Repent.* Becauſe, as you have ſhew'd their *Principle* of placeing all Power in the *People* as the *Original* and *Fountain* of it, Riſes up Naturally to *Blaſphemy* as you have ſhew'd *Num.* 58. And this was before the Book of the *Rights* came out, which has fully Juſtifi'd your *Argument*, and own'd in Expreſs *Terms* that *God* is the *Deputy* of the *People*, and *Derives* his *Power* from them.

And the *Conſequence*, of this is, That the *People* cannot *Rebel* either againſt God, or their *Kings* upon Earth; That ther can be no ſuch thing as *Rebellion* in the *People*, but that when ever they Riſe up againſt their *Princes*, it is all by the *Inſpiration* of God as you have Quoted them *Num.* 25. 88. And you have ſhew'd *Num.* 92. that this is a moſt Outragious *Blaſphemy* againſt the *Holy Ghoſt*, in Fathering the *Witch Craft* of *Rebellion*, and the very *Sin* of *Lucifer* upon *Him!*

Rehearſ. the Monſtrouſneſs of this *Wickedneſs* was not Compleat, till they got a *Korah* and a *Judas* to joyn in their cauſe, who had not been ſo great a *Traytor* if he had not been an *Apoſtle.* The firſt *Rebel* was an *Angel*, and that *Sin* transformed him into a *Devil.* And the next in *Wickedneſs* (as in *Dignity*) is a Rebellious *Prieſt.*

From ſuch *Wolves* not only in *Sheep* but in *Shepherds Cloathing*, good *Lord* deliver this *Church.*

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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